

App. No. 09/862,390
Amendment dated October 6, 2006
Reply to Office Action of July 3, 2006

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REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 6-7, 11-12, 16-17, 21-22, 26-27, 31 and 33 remain in this application for further review. New claims 34-39 have been added. Now new matter has been added.

I. Examiner Interview Dated September 11, 2006

An Examiner Interview was held on September 11, 2006. During the interview, the Dickman reference was discussed in association with the pending claims. An agreement as to allowability was not reached during the interview. However, applicants believe that an agreement was reached that the claim amendments set forth herein overcome the Dickman reference. The remarks set forth herein are in light of the Interview.

II. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 1-2, 6-7, 11-12, 16-17, 21-22, 26-27, 31 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,877,765 issued to Dickman et al. (hereinafter "Dickman"). Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection. Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the following combination of features that are not taught or suggested by Dickman:

providing an application neutral shortcut data store that maintains shortcut data for a plurality of application types, wherein the shortcut data store is configurable to include a lookup table that associates tags with different types of targets, wherein the targets comprise application targets and content targets;

monitoring user input to the mobile electronic device from a shortcut application;

determining whether the user input is a shortcut input, wherein the shortcut input comprises a shortcut tag, and further wherein the shortcut tag corresponds to a shortcut target in the lookup table;

locating the shortcut target in the lookup table based on the shortcut tag when the user input is a shortcut input;

executing the application when the located shortcut target is an application; and

executing the application and automatically opening the content data when the shortcut target is a content target.

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A few of the advantages of the above features of Independent claim 1 are discussed in the specification. Not meant for limiting the above features in any manner, the specification recites as follows:

In accordance with the present invention, a shortcut system is provided for use in a mobile electronic device having several types of shortcuts. In one aspect of the present invention, the shortcut system provides a mechanism in a mobile electronic device that allows a user to execute shortcuts of different types using a single mechanism. In one embodiment, the shortcut system includes a display, an operating system, a shortcut data store, and one or more applications, including a shortcut application used to create shortcuts and edit shortcut information contained in the shortcut data store. *In this exemplary embodiment, the shortcut data store contains target information associated with applications of various types, indexed by a shortcut "tag". In contrast, existing systems generally can handle only one type of shortcut (e.g., one system for telephone number shortcuts, another system for URL shortcuts, and yet another for email shortcuts).* When a new application is installed in the mobile electronic device, the user can easily add shortcut information associated with the new application to the shortcut data store. *Thus, this aspect of the present invention advantageously allows a user to create, edit and execute shortcuts of multiple types using a single, unified, and extensible shortcut system.*

In another aspect of the present invention, the user can create shortcuts in which the target information defines "content", unlike existing systems that generally only allow shortcuts that launch an application. As used in this context, the term "content" refers to particular data that an associated application will operate on. For example, the content may be a URL, email address, etc., each being associated with a corresponding application that *"drills down" into the application* using the content. Thus for example, in accordance with this aspect of the present invention, the user can create a shortcut directly to a contact entry that the user regularly views. When this shortcut is executed, the associated contact application is launched and begins operating to open that particular contact entry. *In contrast, in existing systems, the user would launch the contacts application and then navigate through the contacts application in order to find the desired contact entry. Thus, this aspect of the present invention advantageously allows the user to reduce the number of steps to access desired information.* Specification, at pg. 2, line 1- pg. 3, line2.

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Applicants assert that the features of Independent claim 1 are supported by the specification. Also, applicants assert that the features of claim 1 are not taught or suggested by Dickman. Dickman teaches creating a webpage shortcut on a desktop. *See Dickman*, at col. 6, lines 21-48. Dickman fails to teach "an application neutral shortcut data store that maintains shortcut data for a plurality of application types." Also, Dickman fails to teach "application targets" and "content targets." Accordingly, Dickman cannot possibly teach "executing the application when the located shortcut target is an application" and/or "executing the application and automatically opening the content data when the shortcut target is a content target." Therefore, applicants assert that Independent claim 1 is allowable over Dickman.

Independent claim 11 has been amended to include the following combination of features that are not taught or suggested by Dickman:

providing an *application neutral shortcut data store that maintains shortcut data for a plurality of application types*, wherein the shortcut data store is configurable to include a lookup table that associates tags with different types of targets, wherein *the targets comprise application targets and content targets*;

monitoring user input to the mobile electronic device from a shortcut application;

determining whether the user input is a shortcut input, wherein the shortcut input comprises a shortcut tag, and further wherein the shortcut tag corresponds to a shortcut target in the lookup table;

locating the shortcut target in the lookup table based on the shortcut tag when the user input is a shortcut input;

executing the application when the located shortcut target is an application;
and

executing the application and automatically opening the content data when the shortcut target is a content target.

Applicants assert that the features of Independent claim 11 are supported as set forth above. Also, applicants assert that the features of claim 11 are not taught or suggested by Dickman. As previously stated, Dickman fails to teach "an application neutral shortcut data store that maintains shortcut data for a plurality of application types." Also, Dickman fails to teach "application targets" and "content targets." Accordingly, Dickman cannot possibly teach "executing the application when the located shortcut target is an application" and/or "executing

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the application and automatically opening the content data when the shortcut target is a content target." Therefore, applicants assert that Independent claim 11 is allowable over Dickman.

Independent claim 21 has been amended to include the following combination of features that are not taught or suggested by Dickman:

providing an application neutral shortcut data store that maintains shortcut data for a plurality of application types, wherein the shortcut data store is configurable to include a lookup table that associates tags with different types of targets, wherein the targets comprise application targets and content targets, wherein the content targets include a target to content data within an application that is navigatable to after the initial launch of the application;

monitoring user input to the mobile electronic device from a shortcut application;

determining whether the user input is a shortcut input, wherein the shortcut input comprises a shortcut tag, and further wherein the shortcut tag corresponds to a shortcut target in the lookup table;

locating the shortcut target in the lookup table based on the shortcut tag when the user input is a shortcut input;

executing the application when the located shortcut target is an application;
and

executing the application and automatically opening the content data when the shortcut target is a content target.

Applicants assert that the features of Independent claim 21 are supported by the specification. Also, applicants assert that the features of claim 21 are not taught or suggested by Dickman. Dickman fails to teach "an application neutral shortcut data store that maintains shortcut data for a plurality of application types." Also, Dickman fails to teach "application targets" and "content targets." Accordingly, Dickman cannot possibly teach "executing the application when the located shortcut target is an application" and/or "executing the application and automatically opening the content data when the shortcut target is a content target." Further, Dickman fails to indicate that the content targets include "a target to content data within an application that is navigatable to after the initial launch of the application." Therefore, applicants assert that Independent claim 21 is allowable over Dickman.

Independent claim 31 has been amended to include the following combination of features that are not taught or suggested by Dickman:

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means for providing shortcuts to a plurality of targets in a lookup table of the *application neutral shortcut data store that maintains shortcut data for a plurality of application types*, wherein the lookup table associates tags with different types of targets, and further wherein the targets comprise *application targets and content targets*;

means for monitoring user input to the mobile electronic device from a shortcut application;

means for determining whether the user input is a shortcut input, wherein the shortcut input comprises a shortcut tag, and further wherein the shortcut tag corresponds to a shortcut target in the lookup table;

means for locating the shortcut target in the lookup table based on the shortcut tag; and

means for executing the application, wherein the content is accessed when the located shortcut target is a content target.

Applicants assert that the features of Independent claim 31 are supported by the specification. Also, applicants assert that the features of claim 31 are not taught or suggested by Dickman. Dickman fails to teach a "means for providing shortcuts to a plurality of targets in a lookup table of the application neutral shortcut data store that maintains shortcut data for a plurality of application types." Also, Dickman fails to teach "application targets" and "content targets." Accordingly, Dickman cannot possibly teach a "means for executing the application, wherein the content is accessed when the located shortcut target is a content target." Therefore, applicants assert that Independent claim 31 is allowable over Dickman.

Independent claim 33 has been amended to include the following combination of features that are not taught or suggested by Dickman:

a shortcut data store that *maintains short cut data for a plurality of application types*, wherein the shortcut data store includes a lookup table that associates tags with different types of targets, wherein the targets *comprise application targets and content targets*; and

an operating system coupled to the display unit and the shortcut datastore, wherein the operating system is configured to:

monitor user input to the mobile electronic device from a shortcut application,

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determine whether the user input is a shortcut input, wherein the shortcut input comprises a shortcut tag, and further wherein the shortcut tag corresponds to a shortcut target in the lookup table,

locate the shortcut target in the lookup table based on the shortcut tag when the user input is a shortcut input,

execute the application when the located shortcut target is an application, and

execute the application and automatically open the content data when the shortcut target is a content target.

Applicants assert that the features of Independent claim 33 are supported as set forth above. Also, applicants assert that the features of claim 33 are not taught or suggested by Dickman. Dickman fails to teach "a shortcut data store that maintains short cut data for a plurality of application types." Also, Dickman fails to teach "application targets" and "content targets." Accordingly, Dickman cannot possibly teach an operating system configured to "execute the application when the located shortcut target is an application" and/or "execute the application and automatically open the content data when the shortcut target is a content target." Therefore, applicants assert that Independent claim 33 is allowable over Dickman.

Claims 2, 6-7, 12, 16-17, 22, 26-27, and 34-39 include features not taught or suggested by Dickman. Moreover, claims 2, 6-7, 12, 16-17, 22, 26-27, and 34-39 ultimately depend from independent claims 1, 11, 21, 31 and 33, respectively. As such, they are thought allowable for at least the same reasons set forth above.

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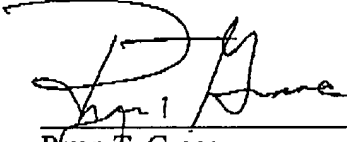
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III. Request For Reconsideration

It is respectfully submitted that each of the presently pending claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the below-listed telephone number if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby. Although certain arguments regarding patentability are set forth herein, there may be other arguments and reasons why the claimed invention is patentably distinct. Applicants reserve the right to raise these arguments in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

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